

Miscellaneous Editorial Paragraphs

(Are these things so?)

Responsibility is indivisible.
Works will not save a man.
Without works it is impossible to be saved.
Being good does not make men Christians.
Knowing about Christ and *knowing Christ himself* are two vastly different things.

The greatest three words in the vocabulary of the Christian are, love, live, serve.

Every man has a creed, either written or unwritten; some men's creed affirms everything; others nothing.

The man who in the sincerity of his heart can look up to God and say, "God is my refuge," "the Lord is my shepherd," is prepared for anything, even a fiery furnace.

Any theory that will not work, that is, a theory so impracticable that it can not be gotten into use, is worth exactly as much as a mowing machine that refuses to mow, less the value of so much old iron, of course.

Edward Everett Hale advises the young man to make it a rule to talk every day to some one who is his superior in intellect. That is good advice, and if followed in relation to the spiritual as well as the intellectual, would result in much good. The Christian should talk every day with God.

The Lord did not keep the three Hebrew children from being thrown into the fiery furnace, nor Daniel from the lion's den, but he saved both from hurt. To God it may not seem best that you should be delivered from the fiery furnace of trouble and trial; he may have an important lesson to teach you which you will learn in no other way.

It should be the supreme motive of the Sunday school teacher to lead his scholars to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus. He must never cease to impress upon their hearts and consciences that the one thing for which he is before them is to lead them to a firm, vital and saving relation with Christ. Any thing less than that is a motive unworthy of the high calling of the Sunday school teacher.

It is a peculiarity of the doctrines and teachings of the Lord Jesus that they can not be separated from the person who spoke them. Other men's sayings may be so separated, but Christ's never. The Christian's devotion is not to a dogma only, but primarily to a person. There is a world of difference between living by a fixed rule and obeying a person. When separated from the person who spoke them, the sayings of Jesus become common place, and lose both their power and beauty.

A very estimable young lady, near Springfield, Ohio, has been charged with insanity due to religious excitement. She begins praying and reading the Bible as soon as she gets up in the morning and keeps it up all day long. The authorities have served a notice that she appear in court. The ordinary county or State official knows so little about the real pleasure of Bible reading, and much less about praying, that he can not conceive of any one except an insane person spending a whole day in reading the Bible and praying.

The press is yet a long ways from the ideal, yet it is surely a hopeful sign when prominent secular papers have special departments for the Sunday school lesson and the Higher Life. The Sentinel of Indiana, publishes weekly, extensive notes on the Sunday school lessons, and has a department headed "The Higher Life." In the latter department of the last issue of that paper were found such articles as these: "Beautiful Land of Somewhere"; "Manner of Inspiration"; "Falling Numbers of the Clergy"; "The Theological Status"; "Take counsel with yourself"; "Sufficient Unto the Day"; "The Building of a Life."

Mrs. Celia Wallace who at the World's Fair ball wore a diamond dress valued at \$150,000, is today without a home. Some six months ago judgments amounting to \$10,000 were obtained against her by jewelers and others. She was later cited for contempt of court, and disappeared. Her rooms in the auditorium in Chicago were ordered cleared because the management has been unable to learn of her whereabouts. How true it is that riches take wings and fly away, and yet multitudes stubbornly refuse to learn the lesson which the possessions of large fortunes and the gaudy fashions of this world bring to them. How unsatisfying are all the temporal things of this life; ten years ago in the heights of fashion wearing \$150,000 diamond dresses, today without a home. And yet people trust in riches. It is a poor refuge, and in the hour of trial and need utterly fails. "How hard it is for them that trust in riches to enter the kingdom of heaven."

There is an old story says the Youth's Companion of a man who enclosed one dollar and one cent in the envelope which he put into the missionary collection plate, and explained in a note that the cent was for the heathen and the dollar to get it to them. The story never had much point for those familiar with missions, and has lost what little it possessed. At the meeting of the American Board the other day some interesting figures were given. The net cost of administering the whole work of the board is six and one half per cent—one half the lowest expense of any life-insurance company and about one fifth that of the average fire insurance company. In other words, of every dollar contributed to foreign missions thru this board ninety-three and one half cents go directly to the work itself.

A Pennsylvania miner in custody of the Brooklyn police did a marvelous thing last week. With his finger nails he dug his way out of his cell thru a two feet brick wall. He did not even have the buckle of his suspender strap to work with. The man worked with his finger nails until he got out the first two or three bricks, and then he employed the loose brick to knock out the others. If men were as eager for freedom from their sins and for the liberty wherewith Jesus makes them free as they are for freedom from prison walls there would be far less slaves to evil habits from which, of their own strength they can not extricate themselves. And how simple the conditions on which they may have the liberty that is in Christ Jesus. It is not necessary to dig your way thru brick walls with the aid of finger nails; you can have it for the mere asking. But men and women seem to love the galling chains of sin and evil habits more than the sweet peace of a loving Savior who died to make them free.